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N.J. BOARD OF NURSING

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE SUSPENSION	:	
OR REVOCATION OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
CHRISTINE M. ZACCONE, RN	:	ORDER OF SUSPENSION
License #26NR16294400	:	OF LICENSE
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN	:	
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	
	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information indicating the following:

1. Christine M. Zacccone ("Respondent") is a Registered Professional Nurse ("RN") in the State of New Jersey and has been a licensee at all relevant times. (Exhibit A).

2. Respondent entered into a Private Letter Agreement ("PLA") with the Board on December 9, 2015. The PLA required,

in part, that Respondent enroll in and comply with the Board's designated intervention program, the Recovery and Monitoring Program ("RAMP"), to undergo evaluation, monitoring, and treatment, including random screens. The agreement, which was to remain private and confidential unless and until the Board received reliable information that Respondent had violated any term, was to have the force and effect of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4. (Exhibit B).

3. From January 19, 2016 through February 2, 2016, Respondent failed to check-in seven times with the online monitoring system which requires daily check-ins and randomly schedules screens. (Exhibit C).

4. Respondent failed to undergo a randomly scheduled screen on January 29, 2016. (Exhibit C).

5. Respondent ceased participating with RAMP, failed to follow the recommendations of RAMP, and failed to respond to RAMP's efforts to redirect her towards compliance. (Exhibit C).

6. Respondent failed to successfully complete RAMP and was discharged from RAMP as noncompliant on February 3, 2016. (Exhibit C).

7. RAMP notified the Board that it could not assure the Board or the public that Respondent is safe to practice.

(Exhibit C).

8. On May 4, 2016, a communication was sent to Respondent by overnight and regular mail, advising Respondent that the Board had received information indicating that she was not in compliance with the PLA, and with her agreement with RAMP. Respondent was further advised to provide the Board with proof of any inaccuracy in that information within two weeks. The communication was sent to Respondent's address on file with the Board (in Garfield, New Jersey) and an address that Respondent had provided to RAMP (in Levittown, Pennsylvania). (Exhibit D). No response was received.

9. Respondent re-enrolled in RAMP and signed a second monitoring agreement with RAMP on June 12, 2016. (Exhibit C).

10. From June 12, 2016 through July 17, 2016, Respondent failed to check-in six times with the online monitoring system which requires daily check-ins and randomly schedules screens. (Exhibit C).

11. Respondent failed to undergo a randomly scheduled screen on July 6, 2016. (Exhibit C).

12. Respondent withdrew from RAMP, failed to successfully complete RAMP, and was discharged from RAMP as noncompliant on July 18, 2016. (Exhibit C).

13. The PLA signed by Respondent provided for automatic suspension of Respondent's nursing license upon receipt of reliable information indicating that Respondent had violated any term of the private letter agreement. The agreement states that Respondent may, upon notice to the Board, request a hearing to contest the automatic suspension; however, at any such hearing, the sole issue shall be whether any of the information received regarding Respondent's violation of the agreement was materially false. The Board also reserved the right to bring further disciplinary action. (Exhibit B).

14. Respondent violated the PLA by: ceasing participation with RAMP; failing to undergo randomly scheduled screens; failing to follow the recommendations of RAMP by failing to respond to RAMP's efforts to redirect her towards compliance; and failing to successfully complete RAMP. Each violation of the PLA constitutes a violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4, subjecting Respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) for professional misconduct, and automatic suspension of her license as provided in the PLA.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 8th day of September, 2016,
HEREBY ORDERED that:

1. Respondent's license to practice nursing in the State

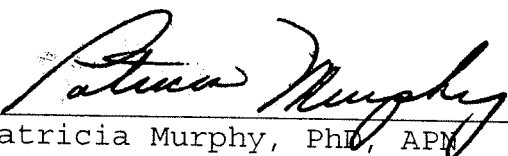
of New Jersey is hereby suspended for her violation of the terms of the private letter agreement as set forth above, which is a violation of a Board Order within the intendment of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.4 and N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

2. Respondent may, under the terms of the private letter agreement, request a hearing, upon notice, on the sole issue of whether information received that Respondent has failed to comply with the terms of the private letter agreement was materially false.

3. In the event that Respondent seeks reinstatement of her New Jersey nursing license at any future time, the Board will not entertain an application for reinstatement from Respondent unless and until Respondent completes a comprehensive mental health and substance abuse evaluation under the auspices of RAMP, demonstrates that she is fit and competent to practice nursing, in full compliance with any agreement with RAMP and with the terms and conditions of the private letter agreement, and that RAMP supports her return to practice.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:


Patricia Murphy, PhD, APRN
Board President